



Saint **AMBROSE**
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
ROOTED IN CHRIST

518-785-1351 • 347 Old Loudon Road, | Latham, New York 12110 • www.stambroselatham.com

MASS TIMES: SATURDAY 4PM, SUNDAY 9AM & 11AM, MONDAY-THURSDAY 12:10PM

LORD,
WE PLACE
OUR TRUST
IN YOU.

PSALM 33

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Come and see.

Much of our faith comes from what we've been told. For most of us, it was ingrained in us from birth through people that we trusted. Lately, I've reflected a lot on who the "keepers of the faith" are in our churches. The keeper of the faith is the one who waves the flag of faith and religious practice in their family. Lately, it's a difficult role because many feel that we wave this flag on our own. We've all experienced the devastation of watching our loved ones drift away from at least religious practice if not faith in God outright. It's painful to watch this great tradition of faith be abandoned. I'm willing to bet that, for most of us, it had been practiced for countless generations. We may feel the same way first generation immigrants feel when they watch their children slowly abandon their traditions as they assimilate to the wider culture. This is why many immigrant families will incorporate into cultural groups that still speak the old language, eat the traditional food, and perform traditional music and dance so that their children can see their heritage as a living thing. If the traditions are part of a hazy past instead of a vibrant present, they're easier to abandon.

Many of us in this congregation are the keepers of the faith in our families. We remember the old ways and the gift that they were for our families. We learn to practice patience as our families slide into lapsed practice, as they don't get married in the Church or they choose not to baptize their children. We remember the joy of our child's first communion and hope for the day when our grandchildren will wear the suit or white dress and veil. I truly believe that this is an ache that many of us carry in different forms. Understand, this is not a judgment on them or on us. For us, tradition came first and lived experience came with time. It's almost the mentality of cultures that value arranged marriages. Advice from parents and matchmakers is to trust the match and that feelings of love will come in time. In many cultures this is a time-honored approach to relationships but our culture has moved in a different direction, of building relationships, meeting people, dating, and valuing personal experience in choosing a spouse. People from older traditions might express concern if there's not at least a salutary effort to gain family support and they wouldn't be wrong. The fact remains that people deal with these big decisions differently now, for good or for ill, and building a good relationship must be approached from different angles. In faith, this means that tradition is simply not enough for someone to hang on to a relationship with God. They do not want "arranged marriages" with God. They will look for meaning and purpose as many people approach dating today, by trying different experiences and enter the "dating pool" of competing ideologies, group affiliations, and personal enrichment. It's a dangerous field out there and we wish they would trust the accumulated wisdom of generations of practicing Christians, but they are seeking to experience fulfillment on their own terms.

In other words, if they are going to bind

themselves to our God, they will need to experience him for themselves. We should still give advice and still try to guide but I think the goal shouldn't be for them to simply pattern themselves on our routines of faith. If Mass for them is boring and meaningless, then simply assuming that going weekly is going to fix this is not enough. No, they need formation, to learn what it is we actually do at Mass and how at each Mass we offer our broken selves to the Almighty as he nourishes us on both his Word and Body. We experience the power of entreating God in one voice and together petitioning him to intervene in our world. They have to know what's happening and feel the tangible benefit, things that are done out of respect for the God who made us but are meant to bless us as well. To get there, we have to approach matters wisely. In evangelization, we attract people to the faith, respecting their freedom by simply allowing them to see God for who he is. Most of this will be done through humble Christian witness. Some who are more open may experience it in the peace offered by sitting before the Blessed Sacrament. Many simply need to hear the stories of Jesus' life and find themselves attracted to him (it's why the popularity of movies or shows like "The Chosen" should not be discounted). They need to encounter God in approachable methods of prayer and meditation that give them first hand experiences of Jesus, to meet him and fall in love with him so that when they encounter him more deeply in the Church there is already a familiarity much like many of us felt the accumulated experience leading into the moment of marriage as we saw our spouse coming down the aisle, at that moment remembering meeting them, finding common interests, falling in love, and making the commitment to live as one.

Karl Rahner once wrote that "the Christian of the future will be a mystic or he will not exist at all." In other words, the faith will not survive if people do not have direct experiences with God that may be informed by the tradition of our families but that aren't something that is merely heard about. It must be heard, it must be seen, it must be felt. In our first reading today, Abraham is told to go to the Promised Land as God commits to him directly. He will see the land of promise just as he hears God himself. In the Gospel reading, Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. They experience the glory of Jesus himself, a vision that makes sense of their accumulated experiences of him up to this point. It is most admirable if we can take these things on faith (many of us have!). But each of us were also formed by bedrock experiences where we felt that God had intervened in our lives, where he showed himself to be real as someone who loves, who rescues, who guides, and who heals. If those who disaffiliate do not experience Jesus in these tangible ways for themselves, we cannot be surprised if they walk away. May God provide these experiences in his own way, may we provide them as a Church, and may God renew us all with his own loving presence.

-Tom Acemoglu

MARCH 5, 2023

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday March
8th @5pm

Immaculate Heart of Mary
2416 7th Ave, Watervliet

St. Ambrose Bible Study

Thursdays @ 7pm
via ZOOM

We cover all parts of the Bible in an approachable way even for first time attendees. E-mail your contact information to thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org to join!



FRIENDS IN FAITH

A NEW MINISTRY

The first meeting of Friends in Faith was a huge success! Our parishioners contributed many wonderful ideas for new ministries. We will continue to keep you informed as the ministries evolve. We will be gathering in the Parish Center each Tuesday following the 12:10 mass. Please note that the evening meeting for Friends in Faith will be held on Friday, March 10 immediately following the 6 PM Stations of the Cross, in the Church.

If you have ideas but are unable to attend, please contact Regina Brown:
southgatebrown61@gmail.com

St. Ambrose, Latham, New York

WE INVITE YOU TO CUT OUT THIS PRAYER & PUT IN A PLACE OF PROMINENCE SO YOU CAN PRAY IT DAILY



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil.

Amen

*Pope Francis' Prayer to St. Joseph
Feast Day - March 19th*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm
Sunday Before & After the Masses
in the Parish Center Lobby.

LENTEN FISH FRIDAY DINNERS

AT THE LATHAM COLONIE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Fri. Feb. 24th, March 3rd -10th - 24th - 31st & April 7th

NO FISH DINNER FRI., MARCH 17TH

4:30 TO 6:30



"TAKE OUT & SIT DOWN"

COST

Baked Fish Dinner - \$15.00

Fish Fry Dinner - \$15.00

Clam Roll Dinner - \$12.00

Homemade New England Clam Chowder - \$5.00

MENU

Baked Fish Dinner Served with Twice Baked Potato, Veggie, Coleslaw & Dessert

Fish Fry or Clam Roll Dinner Served with French Fries or Onion Rings, Coleslaw & Dessert

Fish Fry Only - \$10.00 Clam Roll Only - \$8.00

Children's Menu Available for Eat In Only

For Reservations Call (518) 892 - 3750



GIRL SCOUT TROOP 1130 COOKIE SALE



The Girl Scouts will be selling cookies after the following masses:

Saturday 3/4
Sunday 3/5
&
Saturday 4/1
Sunday 4/2

Limited Supplies Available



Mom's Group

Join us the first Sunday of each month from 9:50AM -10:50AM

Contact Darlene at 518-496-1886 for more information.

THE BEVERWYCK
CATECHETICAL
ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS...

EPHESIANS 3:17-20



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

A FOUR-EVENT
YOUTH & FAMILY
RETREAT

ROOTED

NIGHT 2 - MARCH 15, 2023
YOUTH & FAMILIES NIGHT
TOPIC: MENTAL HEALTH
(ALL FAMILIES WELCOME)

6:30-8:00PM

CHRIST THE KING
(20 SUMTER AVE., ALBANY, NY 12203)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: GRACE FAY
BREAKOUT WORKSHOP TO FOLLOW

CONTACT: LISANNE JENSEN
LJENSEN@CTKPARISHNY.ORG

NIGHT 3 - MARCH 26, 2023
MIDDLE SCHOOL &
HIGH SCHOOL XLT NIGHT
(GRADES 6-12)

6:00-8:00PM

ST. AMBROSE CHURCH
(347 OLD LOUDON RD., LATHAM, NY 12110)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: TOM ACEMOGLU

DODGEBALL GAME TO FOLLOW

CONTACT: TOM ACEMOGLU
THOMAS.ACEMOGLU@RCDA.ORG

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday @ 6PM
during Lent

February 24th -
March 31st

"Is not the Way of the Cross the way of every persons life? Doesn't every life have suffering, falls, hurts, rejections, condemnation, death, burial... resurrection? It has been a Catholic tradition through the centuries to meditate on the Way of the Cross, so that it becomes our way of life."

Rev. Andrew Costello

HOLY WATER AVAILABLE

If you would like Holy Water, the basin in the vestibule at the front of Church is again filled. Please just bring your own vessel.

Overcoming Obstacles to Catholic Life

Sundays from
9:50a - 10:50a
in the Chapel
(3/5-4/2)

WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE ON ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES? Contact Tom at thomas.acemoglu@rcda.org or join at

<https://stambroselatham.flocknote.com/AdultFaithFormat/>

MUSIC IN THE CHURCH BY BILL HAYES

Jacques Berthier

Jacques Berthier (1923 -1994) was a French composer of liturgical music, best known for writing much of the music used at Taizé, France. In 1955 Berthier was first asked to compose music for the Taizé Community, which was then just a monastic community of twenty brothers. Later, Berthier was again asked to compose for Taizé, this time for chants to be sung by the increasing numbers of young people coming to worship there. The Taizé services were known for being a non denominational Christian service without a homily with 90% of the service using simple chants and songs Berthier composed. One such song was "Jesus Remember Me", frequently used during Lent, as these were the words spoken by the criminal who was crucified alongside Jesus on Good Friday.

Jesus, Remember Me

Jacques Berthier

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KIERAN'S LIGHT

CATHOLIC LGBTQIA+
MINISTRY

CONTACT FOR DETAILS:
robyn.spateholts@rcda.org

Kieran's Light is a ministry rooted in love, welcome, and respect for the LGBTQIA+ community, their family, friends, and loved ones. Jesus calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves and it is in that spirit that this ministry is founded.

Upcoming Meetings:
Sunday 1/29, 2/12, 2/26




**Eucharistic
Adoration**

**Wednesdays
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

MARCH 5, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 4th — 4pm

Fr. Deimeke

Richard Bango
Leo & Lucina Charbonneau
Intentions of Geary Family
Jacqueline Dupont

Sunday, March 5th — 9am

Fr. Kelly

Joan Bruno
Gary & Bill Bogue
Arlene Renee Richmond

Sunday, March 5th — 11am

Fr. Kelly

David Placido
Lorraine Garceau
George Sebast
John Penney
Joseph Giglia

Monday, March 6th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Mary K. Zangrando Family

Tuesday, March 7th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Thasnavis Rodrigo
Lorraine Garceau

Wednesday, March 8th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Lorraine Garceau

Thursday, March 9th — 12:10pm

Fr. Kelly

Roland J. Marsolais
Frederick & Virginia Alston
Lorraine Garceau

St. Ambrose, Pray for Us!

WHO'S PRESIDING NEXT WEEKEND?

Saturday, March 11th — 4pm

Fr. Kelly

Sunday, March 12th — 9am & 11am

Fr. Bellafiore

FR. BRIAN KELLY, PASTOR

OFFERTORY

Current Year

Previous Year

2/19/2023:

2/20/2022:

\$15,686.20

\$13,352.55



ONLINE GIVING

Always forgetting
your envelopes?
Switch to online giving:
stambroselatham.com/egiving



The Albany Chapter of Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, is sponsoring a women's breakfast

**Sat. March 18, 2023 - Wolferts Roost Country Club
Albany, NY from 9:00am - 12:00pm
(Doors open at 8:30 a.m.)**

Guest Speaker: Julie Baaki, Executive Director
of Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville, NY

Registrations can be made online or by mail. All are due by March 8th. You may register online using PayPal or a Credit Card at <http://www.magnificat-ministry.org/ny-albany>. Online Cost: \$29.40, Students \$19.40. Register by mail with a check (\$28, Students \$18) made payable to Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat, P.O. Box 340, Clifton Park, NY 12065. Please include your name, address, telephone # & email address with your check. No registrations will be taken at the door. Further registration information may be obtained by contacting Kathleen Carroll at 518-930-8380 or via email at albanyamagnificat@gmail.com

HAILEY'S CORNER



Even the saints
were sinners.
The only thing
that separates
us from them is
perseverance. If
we can be as
persistent as
them at trying
again to be like
Christ, we can
be saints too.